

**Donald M. Benton  
P.O. Box 5076  
Vancouver, WA 98668**

**CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

February 28, 2001

Lois G. Lerner  
Acting General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
Washington, DC 20463

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RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF GENERAL  
COUNSEL

Dear Ms. Lerner,

I am writing in response to your letter of February 16, 2001 and to request an extension of time to file a responsive brief in reference to MUR 5066 (Benton for Congress).

I am currently serving as a state senator in the Washington State Senate and we are involved in our legislative session that should finish on or about April 25, 2001. My duties as Senator make it difficult for me to prepare my response quickly.

I am requesting an extension to file my responsive brief in this matter until May 15, 2000. If this is not possible, I would appreciate an extension for as long as you can possibly give me.

In addition, I am willing to settle this matter through a conciliation agreement as long as a reasonable one is presented.

Thank you for your consideration of my request, I await your reply.

Sincerely,



Don Benton